

## THE VALUE OF GODLY WISDOM Ecclesiastes 8:1-9

### I. Godly wisdom changes how we look to others (1).

Psalm 34:5: They looked to Him and were **radiant, and their faces were not ashamed.**

Proverbs 15:13: A merry heart makes a **cheerful countenance**, but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

### II. Godly wisdom changes how we act toward authority (2-5).

#### A. In the presence of authority (2-3).

Romans 13:1: Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For **there is no authority except from God**, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

1 Peter 2:13: Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, **whether to the king as supreme.**

#### B. In the commands of authority (4-5).

Romans 13:2-3: Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those **who resist will bring judgment on themselves.** For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. **Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good**, and you will have praise from the same.

Proverbs 14:35: The king's favor is toward a wise servant, **but his wrath is against him who causes shame.**

### III. Godly wisdom changes how we respond to events (6-9).

#### A. The timing of events (6).

Ecclesiastes 3:17: I said in my heart, "God shall judge the righteous and the wicked, **for there is a time there for every purpose and for every work.**"

Psalm 31:14-15: But as for me, I trust in You, O Lord; I say, "You are my God." **My times are in Your hand**; deliver me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

#### B. The reason for events (7).

Ecclesiastes 6:12: **For who knows** what is good for man in life, all the days of his vain life which he passes like a shadow? **Who** can tell a man what will happen after him under the sun?

James 4:14: **whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow.** For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

**C. The power over events (8-9).**

Psalm 49:6-7: Those who trust in their wealth and boast in the multitude of their riches, **none of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him.**

Job 14:5: Since his days are determined, **the number of his months is with You; You have appointed his limits,** so that he cannot pass.